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No 79 50p

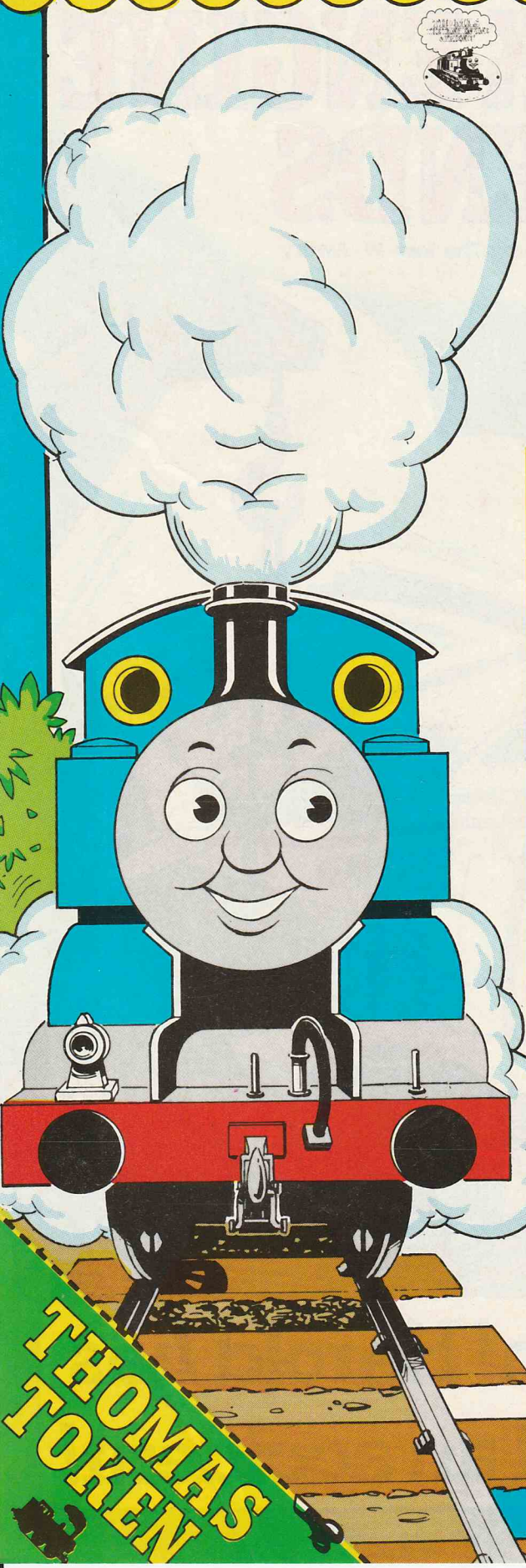
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry

Ooh! Harold has had an accident!

ISSN 0954-9390

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE



Peep! Peep! Strong Autumn winds had arrived from the North and swept across the Island of Sodor, leaving fallen trees everywhere! This made journeys for the Fat Controller's engines very difficult indeed and meant they had to travel more slowly and more carefully! Poor Harold the Helicopter was finding the weather conditions difficult too, and even had to make an emergency landing!! You can find out where by reading the story that starts on the opposite page! Peep! Peep!

STAR LETTER PRIZES TO BE WON!

Have you got an interesting story or question that you would like to send to the Fat Controller? If so, why not send it in and at the same time have a chance of winning a splendid prize! A splendid **Thomas the Tank lunchbox and flask** – from *Bluebird Toys (UK) Ltd,* will be sent to the sender of any letter that is chosen and printed each issue as our **STAR LETTER!**

PLASTICINE PICTURES PAGE!

The winners of our **plasticine drawing/ photograph competition** that appeared in issue 74 of Thomas's magazine are printed on page 13!

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

If you would like to become a member of the **Thomas Club** and receive a splendid membership card, just collect 3 tokens like the one at the bottom of this page! Send one **red, yellow** and **green** token together with a stamped addressed envelope, to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

THOMAS TOKEN

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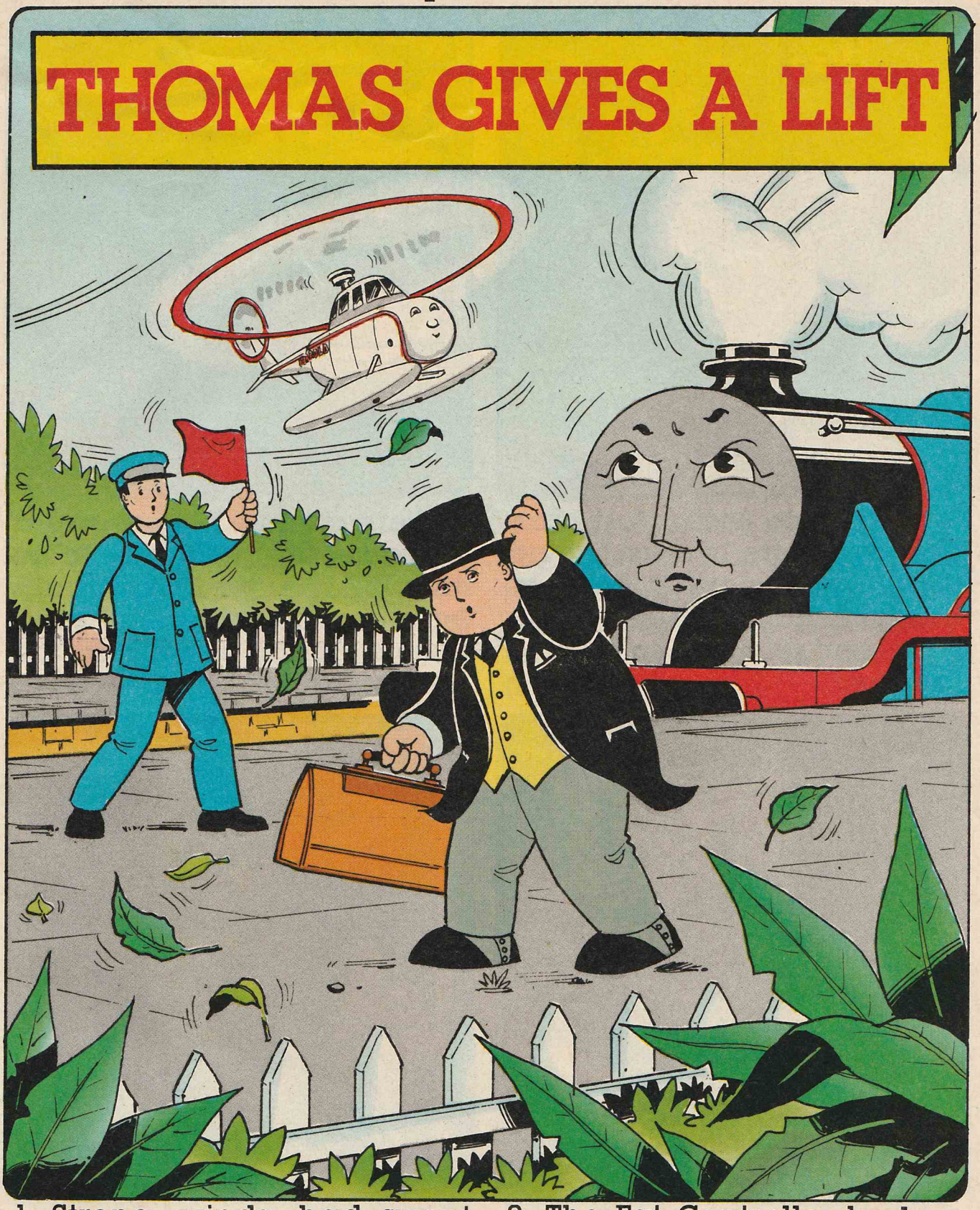
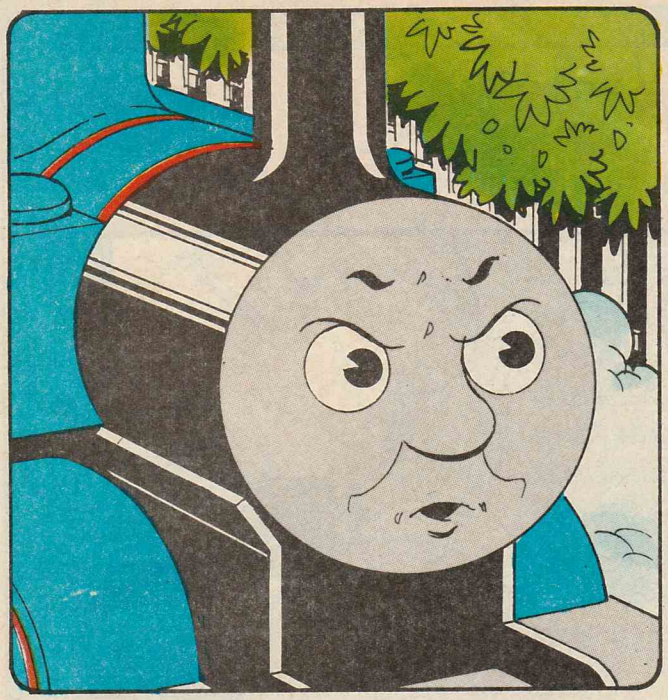
A listen and look story!

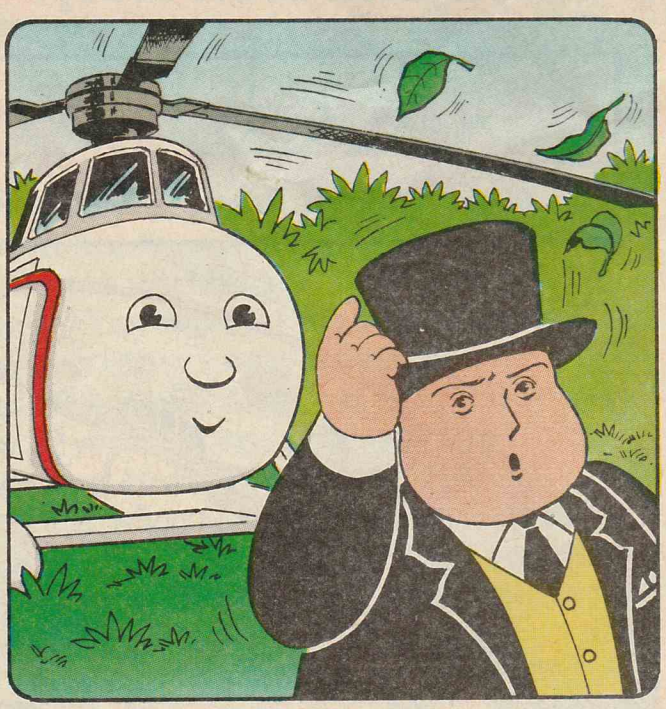


1. Strong winds had swept in from the north to cause chaos on the Island of Sodor. Even the engines found it hard to work, due to fallen trees on the lines.

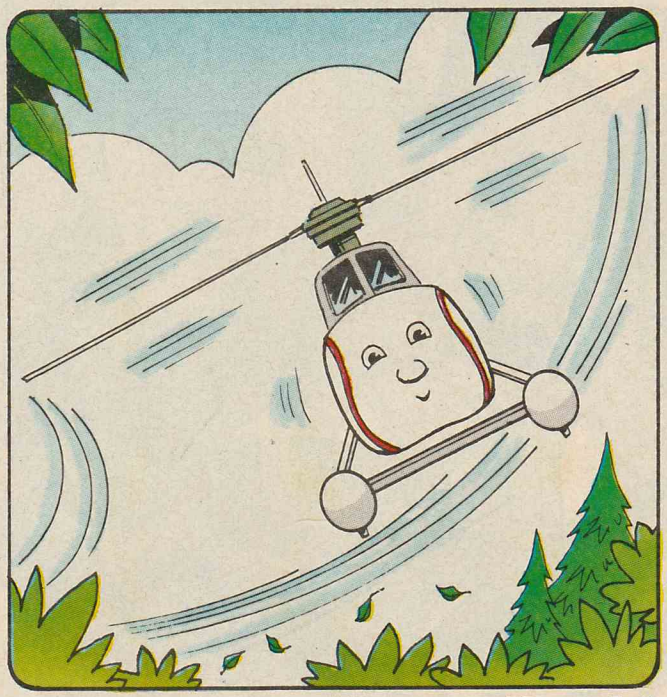
2. The Fat Controller had a meeting to attend. Gordon thought he would travel in **his** Express. He was most displeased when Harold the Helicopter arrived.



3. "Trains are useful, but I can go anywhere – fast," said Harold, teasingly. Thomas thought Harold was being rude, and told him so. Harold laughed.

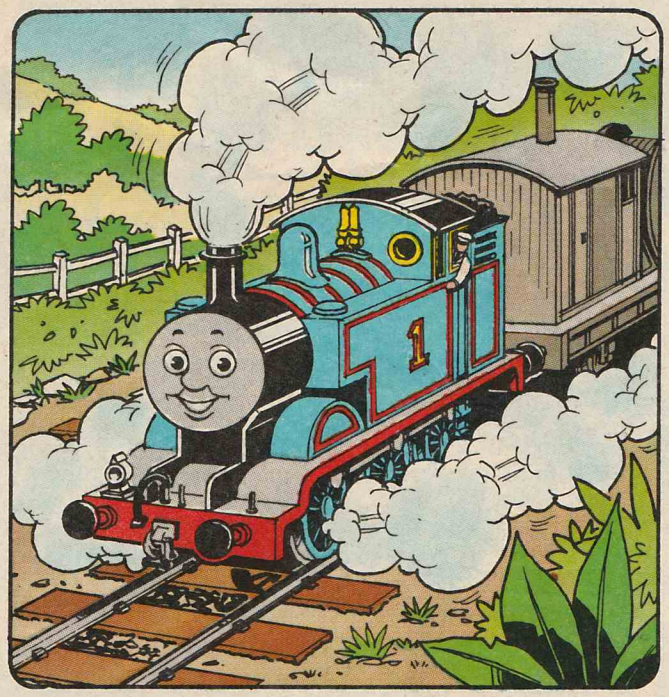


4. "Perhaps I shall give you a lift one day, Thomas," he chuckled, as the Fat Controller boarded him. But even Harold had to struggle to lift off against the wind.



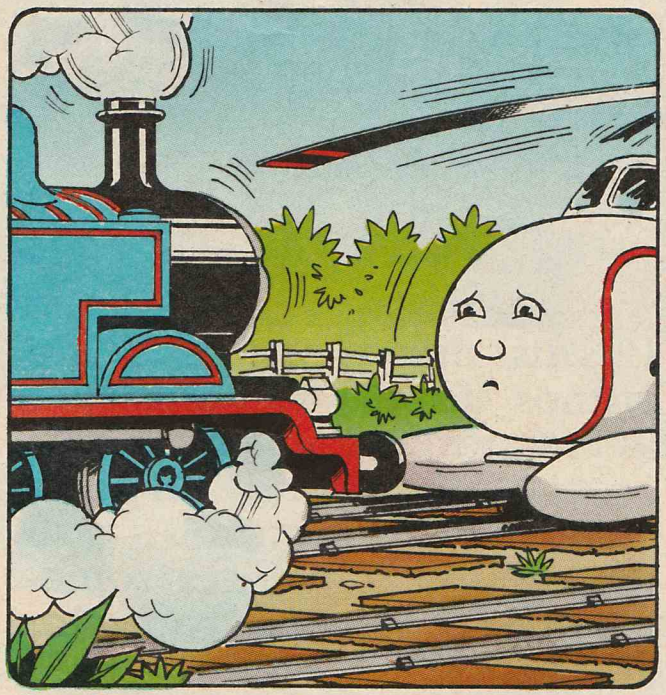
5. "Are you quite sure Harold is safe to fly in this weather?" the Fat Controller asked the pilot. "I can handle any weather condition," boasted Harold proudly.

6. Once Harold had gone, the engine got back to work. "The Fat Controller is only using Harold because all the engines have so much to do," explained Thomas's driver.

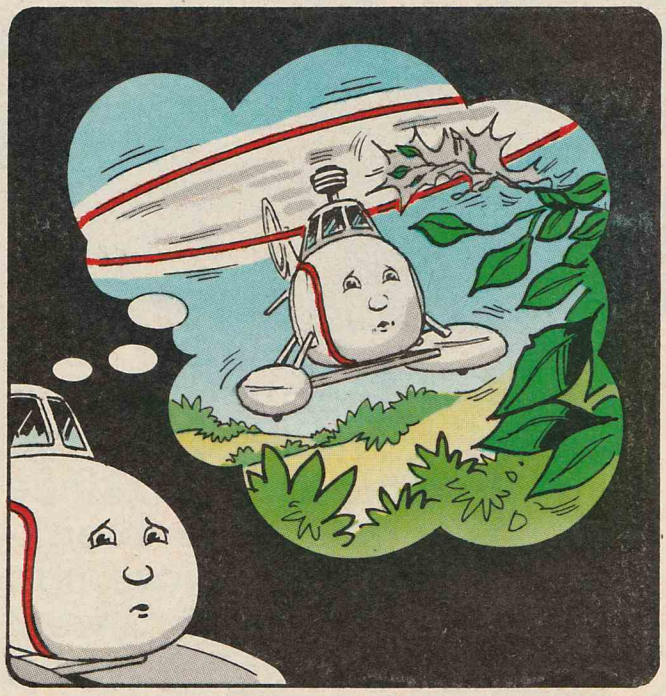


7. Thomas was coupled to the breakdown train, to take it to the harbour. The train had two cranes, which were used to lift heavy engines and coaches.

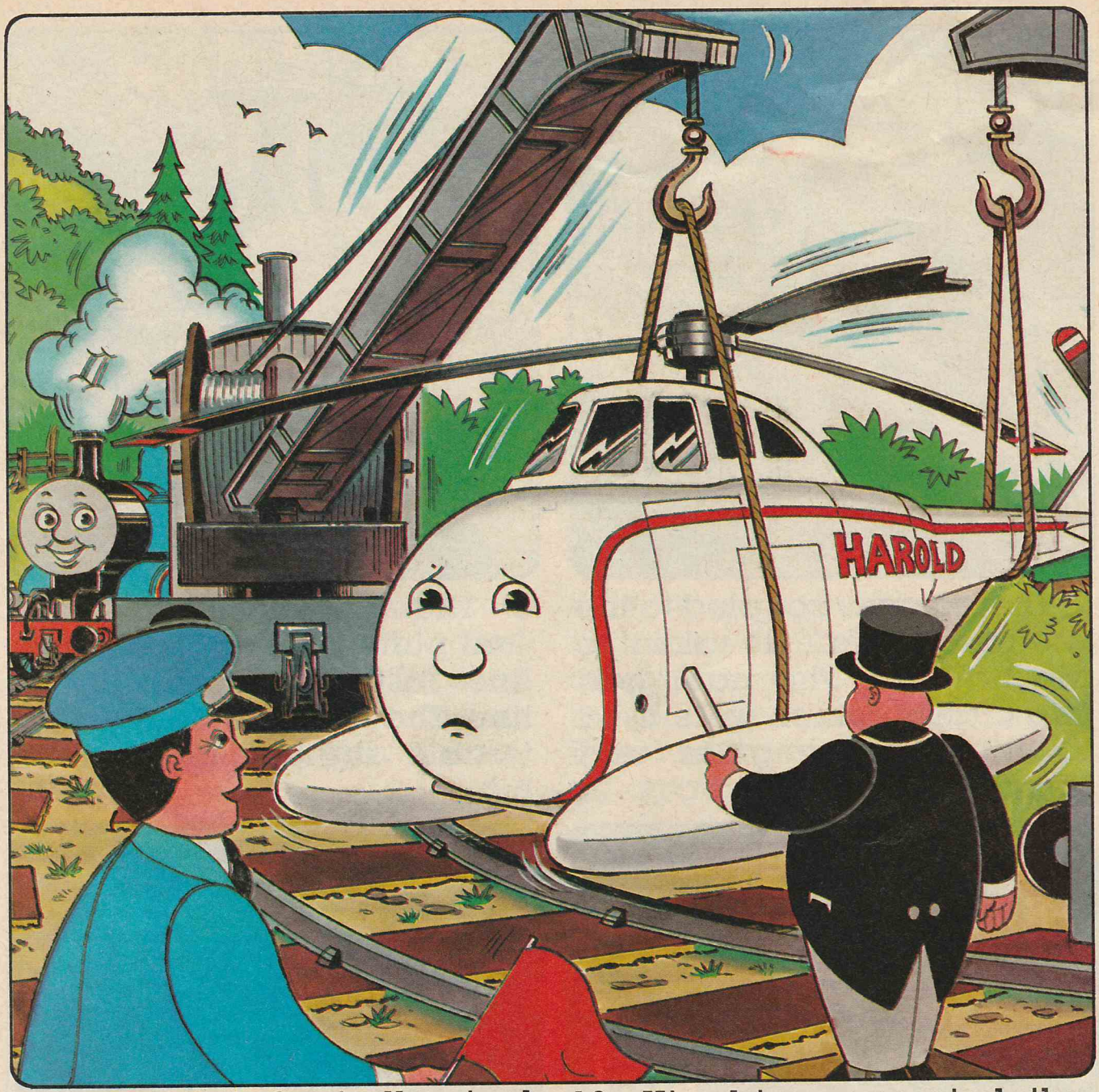
8. Thomas left the station, and puffed along his branch line. Just past a bend in the line Thomas saw something terrible straight in front of him.



9. "Stop the train," he cried. His driver pulled on his brakes, and Thomas stopped. Harold was on the line. One of his rotor blades was damaged.



10. "We were flying low to escape the wind when a branch snapped off a tree and hit my rotors," explained Harold. "We had to make an emergency landing."



11. The Fat Controller took charge. "Luckily Thomas stopped in time. Now, we must clear the line. And since you are pulling the breakdown train, Thomas, we can use the cranes." Thomas went back to the station, and switched to a siding. The breakdown train was uncoupled. Then Thomas pushed the train in front of him.

12. His driver operated the cranes. Harold was attached to the cranes and slowly and carefully hoisted off the line to rest on the bank. "I'll call the airfield and have someone come over with a replacement rotor system," said the pilot. Thomas smiled at the blushing Harold. "It was I who gave you a lift, Harold," he said.

THE END

Another story begins on page 13!

COMING YOUR WAY...

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

AUTUMN SPECIAL!

Reprinted from issues 4, 8, 9, 12, 14, 19, 26, 37, 38, 41, 42, 66, 69, 70 and 71.

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry

POSTER MAGAZINE

ON SALE NOW!

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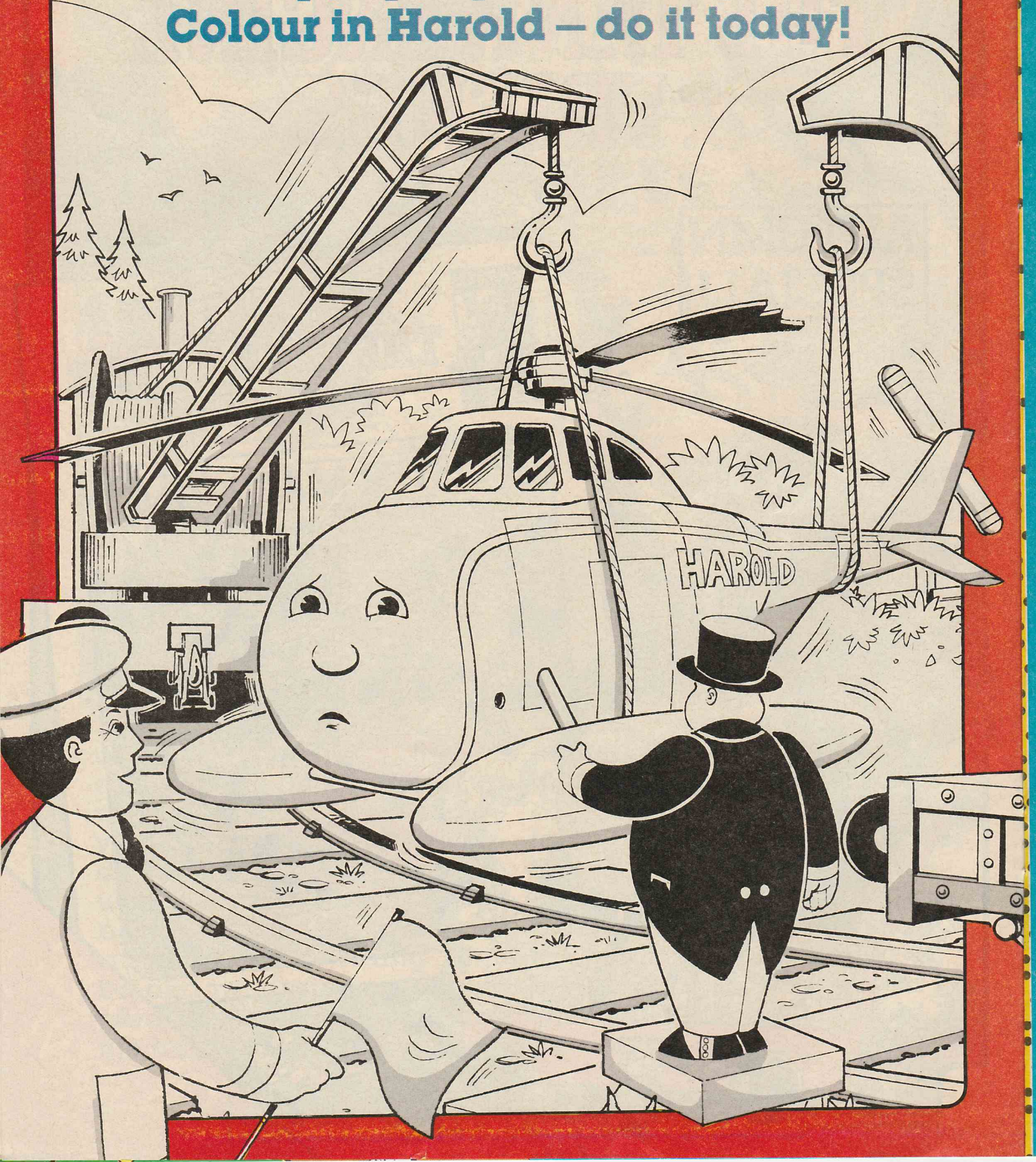
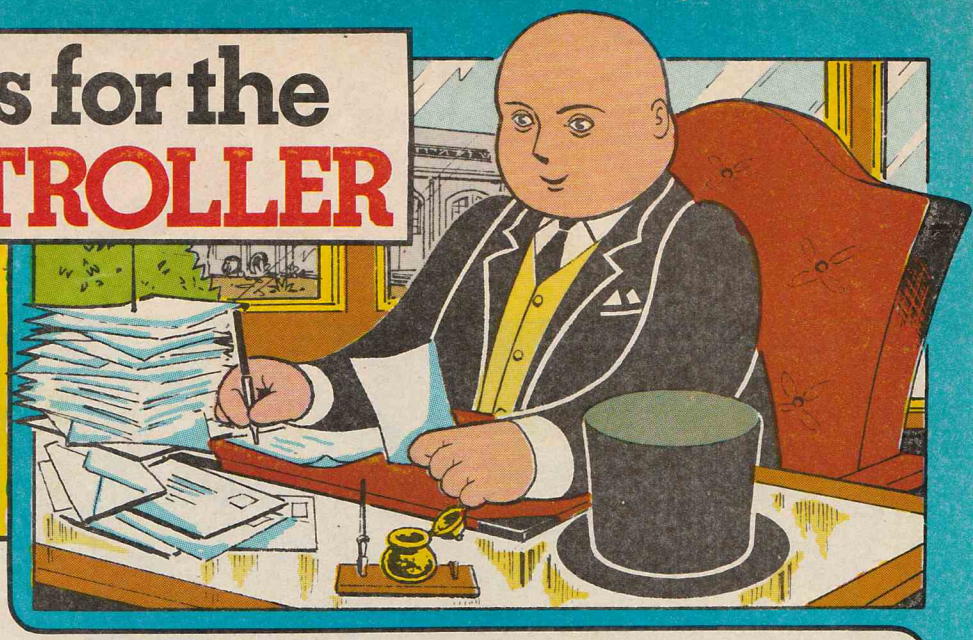
COLOURING TIME!

Up, up, up and away, Colour in Harold – do it today!



Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

★★★★★★★★★

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
I have two **Thomas the Tank Engine** train sets. I have been playing with my Great Race set outside during the Summer and our kitten has been very naughty, chasing **Bertie the Bus!** I sometimes put my dinosaurs on the track and Thomas knocks them over!
Love from **Robert,** aged 5.
Gracious me! *It sounds as if you are having a splendid time! I'm glad there are no dinosaurs on my railway though!*

★★★★★★★★★

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win a splendid **Thomas the Tank lunchbox and flask** – from *Bluebird Toys (UK) Ltd.*

SPLENDID HOLIDAY!

Dear Fat Controller,
I bought my **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** magazine at Heathrow Airport and took it on holiday with me to France! I learnt to swim in France too!
From **Nicholas,** aged 4.
Goodness . . . what an exciting time you must have had! I am so pleased to hear that you have learnt to swim . . . it is splendid exercise, you know!

ANOTHER ENGINE!

Dear Fat Controller,
Does Henrietta ever work with any of your other engines on your railway, apart from Toby the Tram Engine?
Love from **Martin,** aged 5.
No . . . Henrietta has always worked with Toby on the outlying quarry lines and that is where she will continue to work! Toby and Henrietta have been together so long now that to split them up would be unthinkable!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Leo Mullet, Glenn Pursey (31895), Steven Adrian Bluebridge, Robert Charsley (19323), James Rodgers, Jacqueline Thackeray (31547), Simon Leigh, Stuart Chubbock (0684), Craig Lambourn, Richard Hawkins, Julie Rabbetts, Matthew Light (32639), Robbie Sales, Dermott Simon Wilkins, Gary Shaw, Euan Nuttall, Michael Francis, Paul Robert Morrison (33632), Ben Williams (20612), Frazer Sullivan, Eleanor Ritchie (32117), Robert St. Paul, Giles Burfield, Joanne Chant (28469), Kristoffer Daniel Finch (31624), Andrew Henderson, Michael Shaw, Nichola (31663), Robbie Marx (29390) and Mark King.

If you would like a birthday mention here, just send details on a postcard, at least **9 weeks in advance.** We cannot promise to print all the birthdays, but we will do our very best.

Yours,
Sir Topham Hatt.
the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

Around the

Which engine can you see?

What number is he?

Is the signal up or down?

What season do you think it is?

How many men are putting

Point to the person flying th

How many dogs can you se

Point to the baby in the pra

e park!

tting leaves in sacks?
ng the kite!
ou see?
e pram!

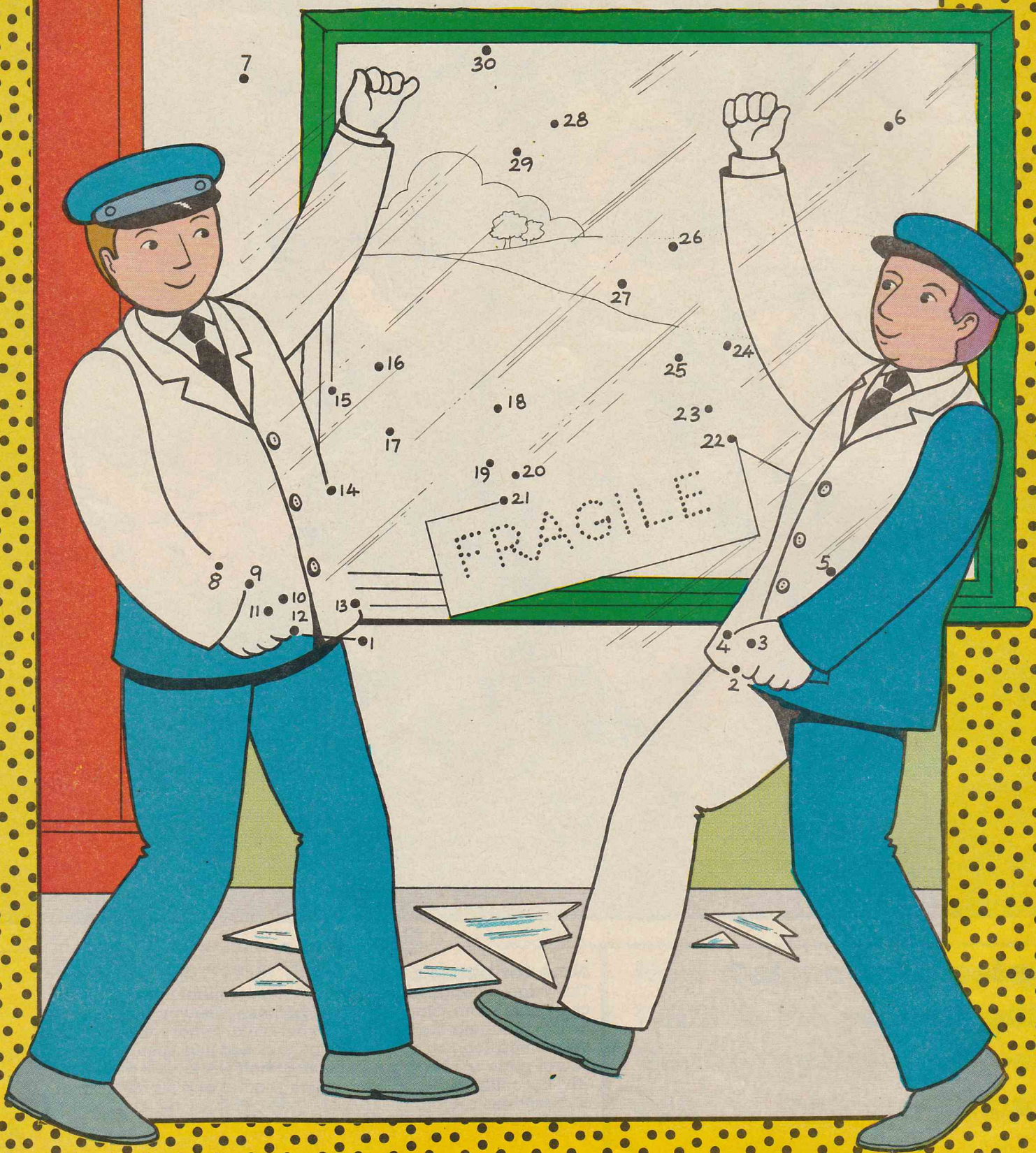
Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

Next issue: Bonfire preparations!

JOIN THE DOTS!

Can you guess what's happening here? Join the dots and all will be clear!



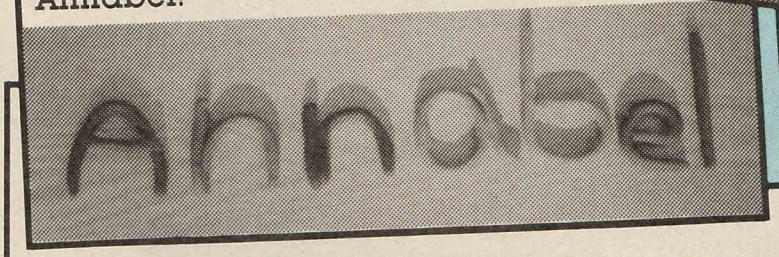
COMPETITION WINNERS!

In issue 74 of Thomas's magazine we asked you to send us a photograph or drawing of what you made with your splendid plasticine gift. The sender of each photograph or drawing that we have printed on this page will receive the brand new Thomas the Tank Engine Autumn Poster magazine plus Thomas Collected Edition 4! Has your picture been printed?

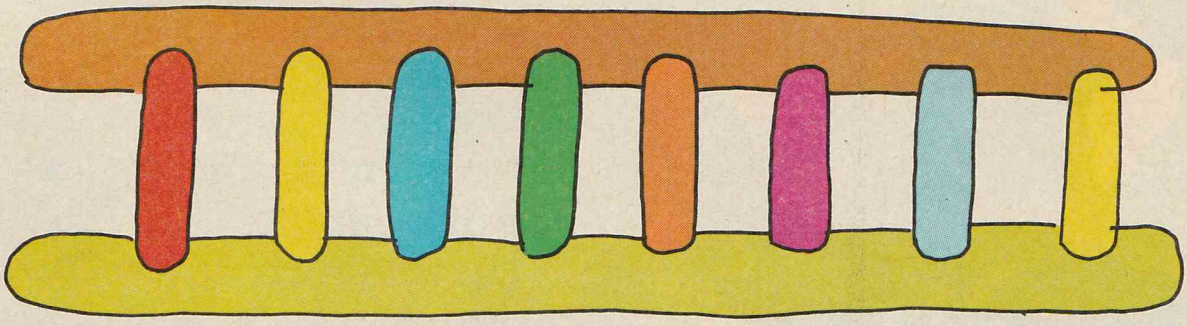
Here is a picture that was sent in by **Sarah King,** from Cleveland! She made a plasticine image of her friend, Samantha!

Here is a splendid plasticine portrait of Thomas the Tank Engine. Sent by **David McGowan,** aged 3, from Stockton!

Annabel Sturdy, aged 8, from West Sussex sent in a picture of her name rolled out in plasticine! Well done, Annabel!



Here is a section of Thomas's branch line made out of plasticine sausages! It was sent to us by **Curt Martin Jackson,** aged 3, from Nottingham!



Thank you all for sending in your photographs and drawings – we are sorry that we could not print more!

A read-aloud story!

Toby is Lonely

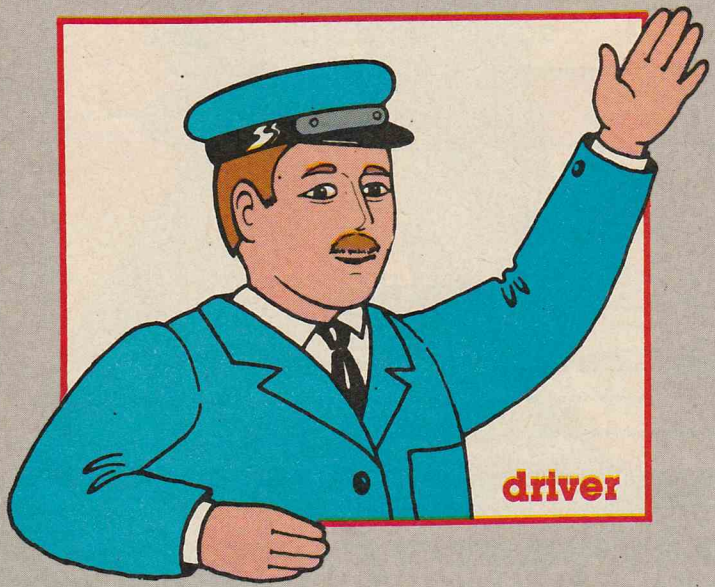
Toby is a tram engine. He works mainly on the outlying quarry line, with his faithful coach, Henrietta, to keep him company.

One day Toby was waiting for his driver to come back from lunch. Henrietta was in her shed getting a new coat of paint and Toby was all alone.

"I'm fed up being stuck up here at the quarry all the time," he complained. "I never see anybody!"

Toby felt very lonely indeed.

"Henrietta is my friend but she is away for a few days," sighed Toby to himself. "I would like to see other engines for a change. I'd like to run on the main line too!"



Just then, Toby heard someone calling to him.

"Hello, Toby," said his driver as he returned from his lunch. "We've got a busy afternoon taking workmen to and from the quarry!"

"Oh," said Toby sadly, "I wanted to see Thomas and all my other friends."

Suddenly, Toby started to move. Perhaps his driver hadn't put the brakes on properly. Soon Toby was rolling down the hill!

"Oh, dear!" cried Toby. "I'm moving! I'm moving!"

Toby's driver tried to jump into Toby as he passed but it was too late!

"I'm going on an adventure," cried Toby. "I'm off to the mainline to meet the other engines!"

But without a driver, Toby couldn't stop. Toby had forgotten about his driver. There was nobody to put on the brakes.

Now he was gaining speed and would not be able to stop at the junction!

"Help! Help!" cried Toby.

On and on he went, faster and faster. He was now nearing the junction. Nobody was expecting Toby, and the points were not set for the quarry line!

Crash! Toby hit the closed points and was jolted right off the rails! The shocked signalman quickly raised the alarm.

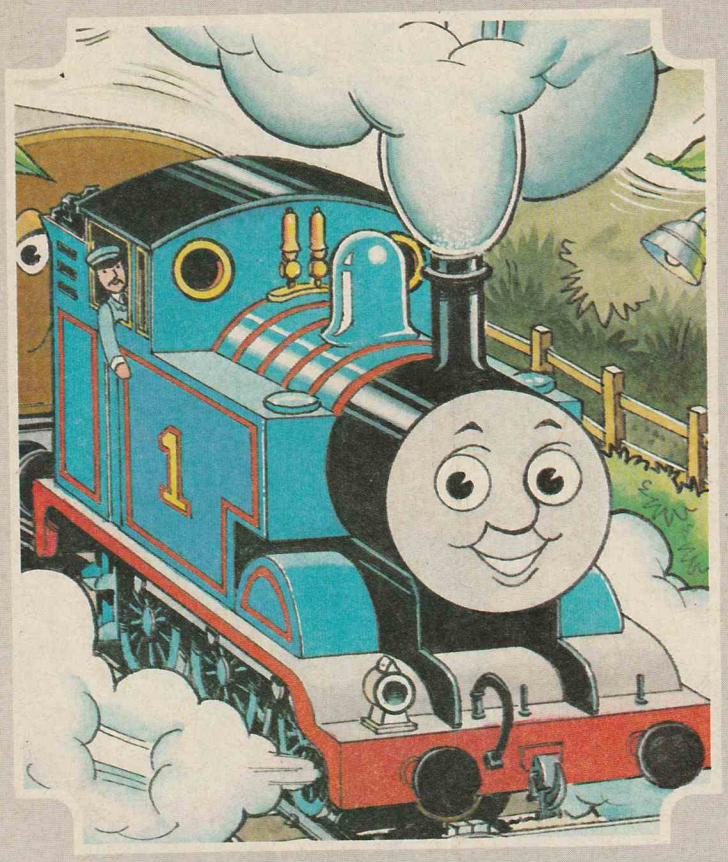
Soon Duck was there bringing cranes to rescue Toby. Henry and Gordon were kept waiting, because Toby was blocking the line. Even the Fat Controller came to inspect the damage!

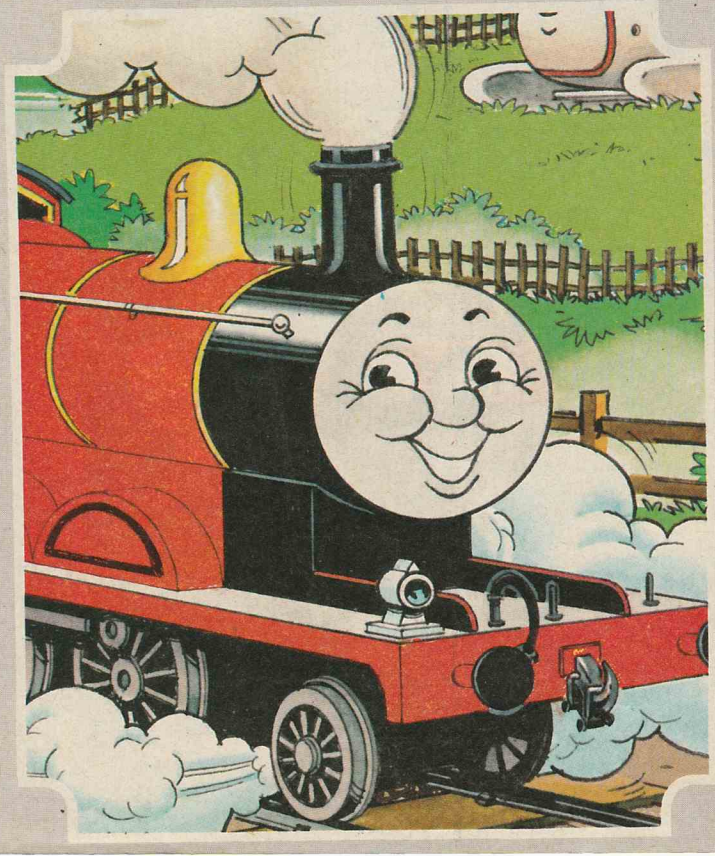
Poor Toby. He **had** wanted some company, but he didn't mean to make everyone cross!

He wished that he had stayed back at the quarry after all!

THE END

Subscribe...





. . .to your child's favourite fortnightly magazine. . .

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

It costs just £16.50 for your child to be sent every issue (26 in all) of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** fortnightly magazine for a whole year! (Overseas subscribers £33.00.) Your child will also receive a splendid Thomas door hanger plus membership card with personal number, enabling him/her to enter special offers and competitions which are frequently open to Thomas Club members only!

ORDER FORM **S02**

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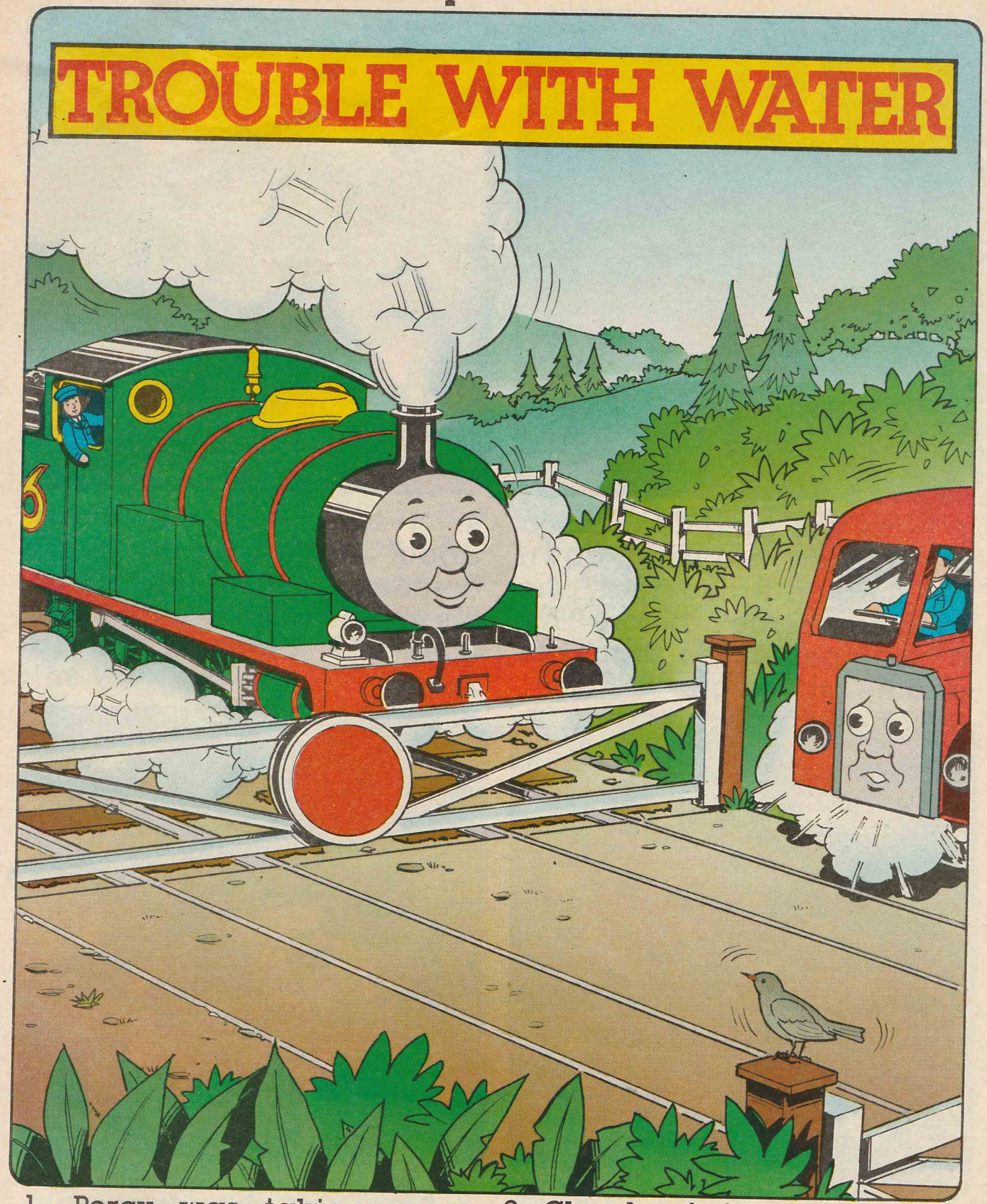
☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order for £16.50 (UK) or £33.00 (overseas) payable to Marvel Comics Ltd.

☐ Please charge £16.50 (UK) or £33.00 (overseas) to my Visa/MasterCard. My card number is (13 or 16 digits):

Signature ..... Expiry date .....

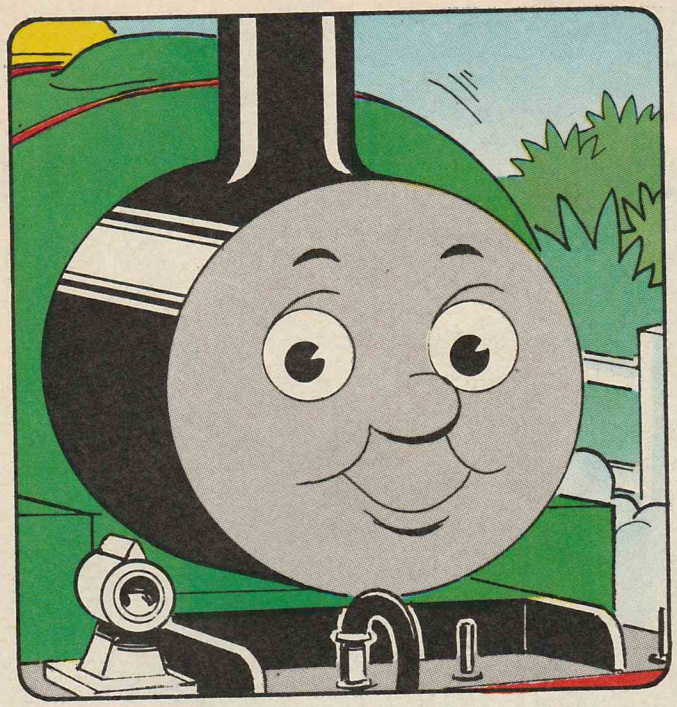
Return form and payment to: *Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 0AB.*

A listen and look story!

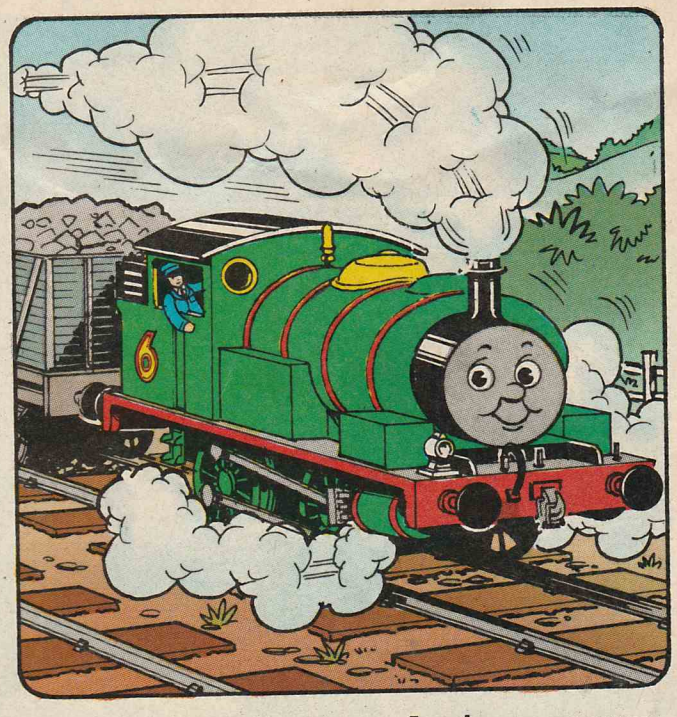


1. Percy was taking some trucks to the quarry. He stopped at a level crossing to let Bertie through. Bertie tried to drive across, and found he was unable to move.

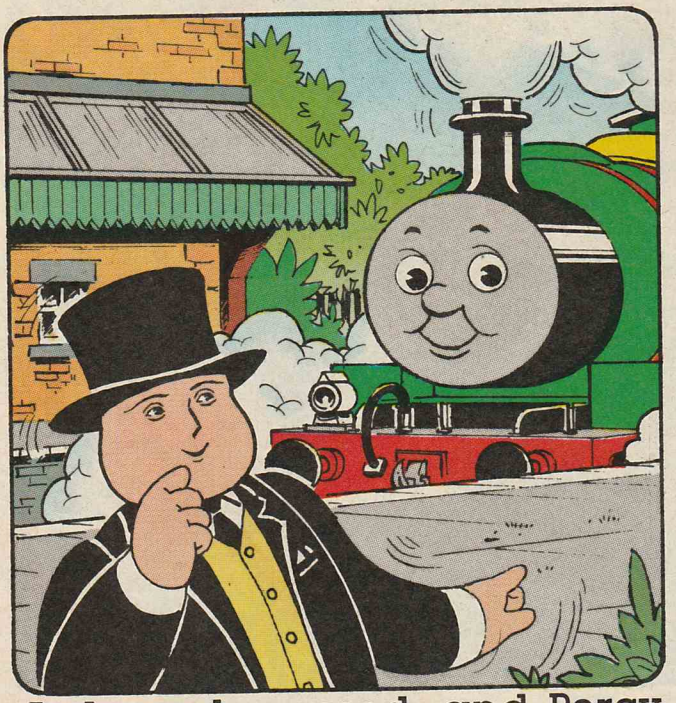
2. Clouds of steam billowed from under Bertie's bonnet. "Your radiator's cracked," explained his driver, examining the bus. "No more work for you today."



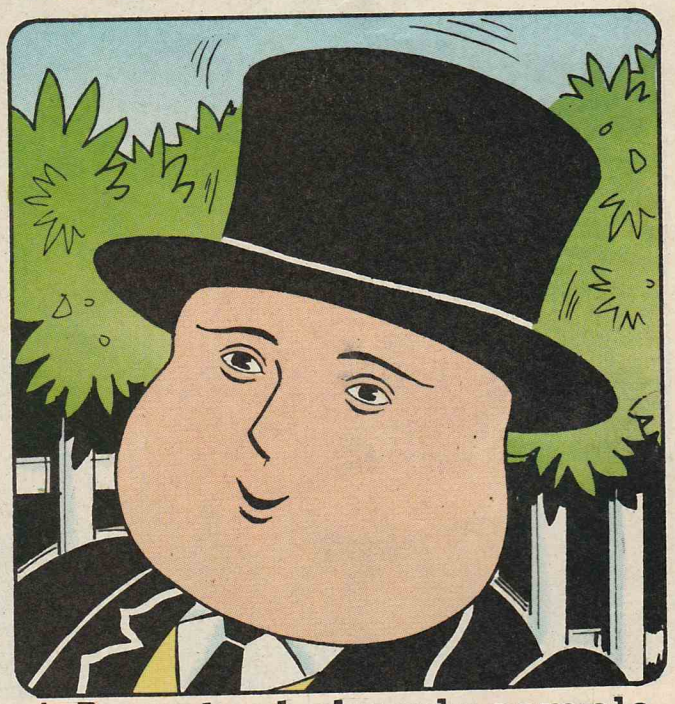
3. Percy was glad he wasn't a bus. "Fancy breaking down on the road like that," he taunted Bertie, before his driver opened the regulator and he moved off.



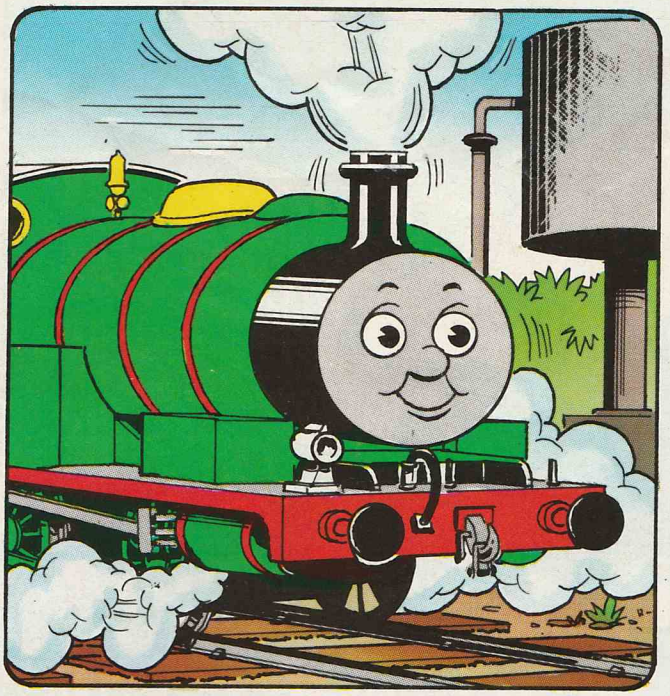
4. "I don't need to worry about water," he laughed, continuing along the line on his journey. "My water tank is filled up whenever I need more."



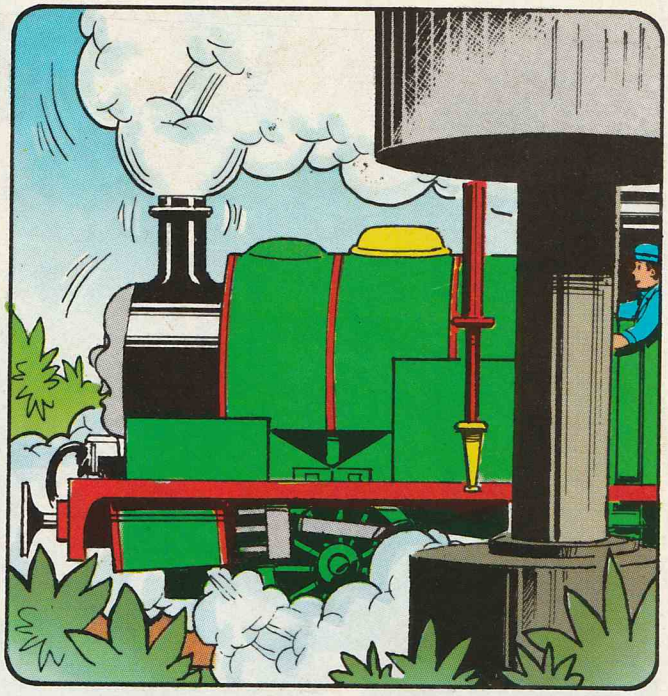
5. A week passed, and Percy forgot about Bertie. He was too busy making a good impression on the Fat Controller. "I'm a really busy engine," he boasted.



6. Percy had already completed a run to the harbour. "With Thomas in the workshop, I need a train to carry passengers," he said. Percy was happy to oblige.

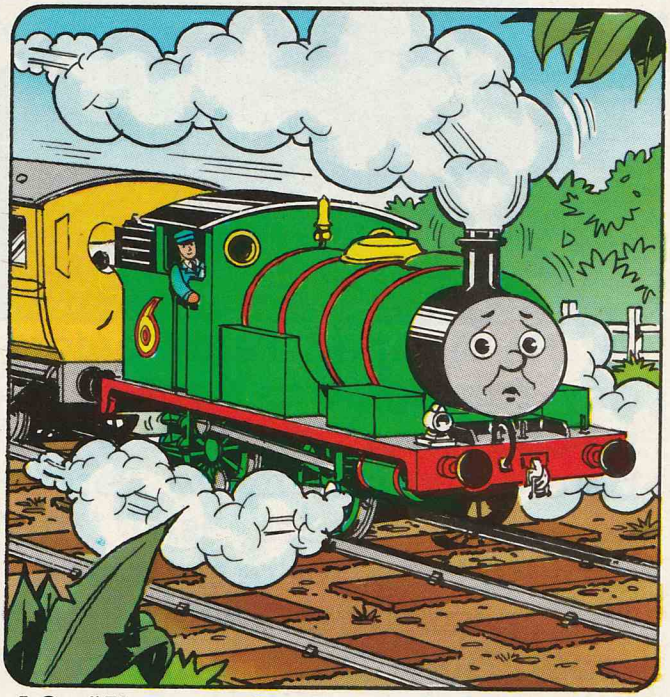


7. Percy set off with the coaches. Along the route, his driver stopped beside a water tank. "You need filling up, Percy," he said, operating the water pipe.

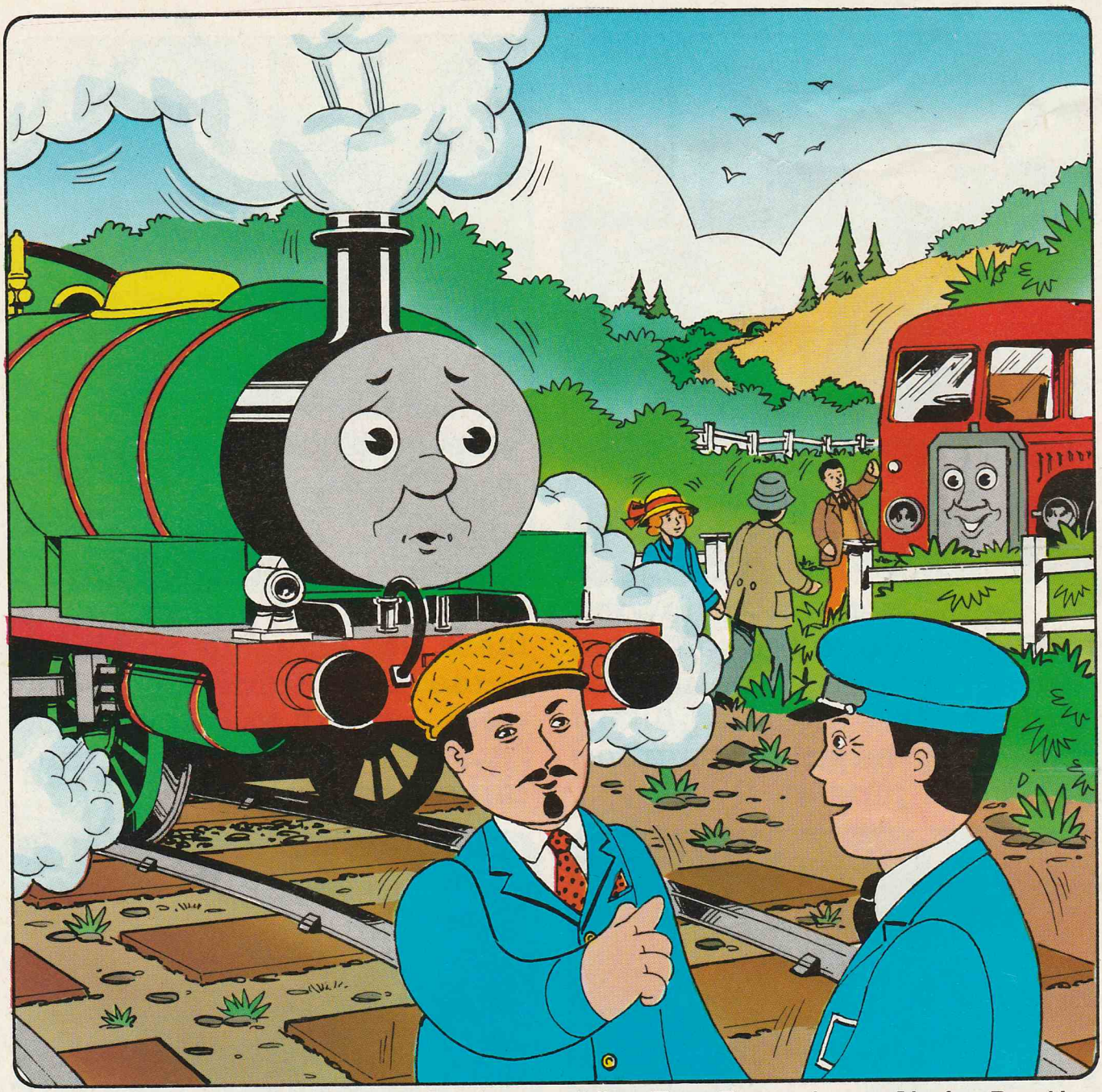


8. Unknown to Percy's driver, there was very little water left in the tank. Hardly any water went through to Percy's tank. Percy set off with his tank almost empty.

9. Percy carried on working. He began to feel hot and dry. His driver was surprised to see the water level gauge reading so low. Percy went slower and slower.



10. "I've got an awful pain in my boilers," wailed Percy. His driver worked the injectors to release water from the tank into the boilers. But nothing happened.



11. He stopped Percy before any damage was done to his mechanisms. "We need water before you can move, Percy," he said. "There isn't any around here. We're stranded." The passengers were very cross. They didn't want to be late arriving at their destinations. "We shall complain to the Stationmaster," grumbled a well-dressed gentleman.

12. To Percy's relief, Bertie passed by on the road. "Having trouble?" called Bertie. Once the problem was explained, Bertie's driver offered to take the passengers into town, and then return with enough water to get Percy back to the station. Percy was very grateful. "I'll never laugh at someone in trouble again," he promised.

THE END

More fun on the line in our next issue!